

STATE STATUTES SERIES

Current Through January 2006

Online Resources for State Child Welfare Law and Policy

Child welfare professionals require ready access to State laws and regulations regarding child protection, foster care, and adoption. This publication provides web addresses for State statutes websites and lists the parts of the code for each State and territory that contain the laws addressing child protection, adoption, and child welfare. It also provides web addresses for State regulation and policy websites and lists other resources that explain States' policies and procedures.

State Statutes

State statutes are provisions enacted by State legislatures that authorize the State government to

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operate and perform its many functions. All States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands currently make their statutes available on websites that are freely accessible to the public. Statutes are organized topically into codes by titles, chapters, articles, or sections. Familiarity with the structure of a State's code is helpful for locating information.

State Regulation and Policy

State regulations, also known as administrative law or policy, are promulgated by State agencies to guide the application of statutory requirements to agency practice.² Each department or agency within a State government typically has responsibility for formulating regulation and policy for the programs that the agency administers. Regulation tends to be organized into codes by agency, topical area, or even specific programs.

Most States now make regulation or administrative law available on a statewide website organizing every agency's administrative code or on the website of the individual department or agency. Some State agencies have further organized their regulations into "policy manuals" and other explanatory materials; many of these are also available online.

Other Considerations

State statutes can be subject to further interpretation by State case law. Case law refers to the body of court opinion, i.e., the written decisions that are issued at the appellate and supreme court level, that can impact the application of law. Individuals interested in how the law may apply to their specific situation should consult with a legal professional who has experience in child welfare law in their State.

¹ Online statutes and regulation for Puerto Rico are available in Spanish only. Only session laws (recently enacted legislation) are available online for the Northern Mariana Islands at this time.

 $^{^{2}\,}$ State regulation and policy are subject to a hearing and approval process before finalization.

This publication is a product of the State Statutes Series prepared by Child Welfare Information Gateway. While every attempt has been made to be as complete as possible, additional information on these topics may be in other sections of a State's code as well as agency regulations, case law, and informal practices and procedures.

Alabama

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://alisdb.legislature.state.al.us/acas/ACASLogin.asp

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 26, Chapters 10, 10A, 10B, 10C
- Child Protection: Title 26, Chapters 14, 15, 16, 18, 20
- Child Welfare: Title 12, Chapter 15; Title 26, Chapter 18

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.alabamaadministrativecode.state.al.us/

Note:

See Chapter 660, Section 5, Parts 21-24, 28-30, 34-35, 37, 39, 46-48, 50, 53

Other Resources:

Department of Human Resources

- Foster Parent Handbook—http://www.dhr.state.al.us/large_docs/fphandbook.pdf
- $\bullet \quad \text{The rapeutic Foster Care Manual---http://www.dhr.state.al.us/large_docs/TFCManual10_05Update.pdf} \\$
- Guidelines for Assessment Foster Family and Congregate Care Programs http://www.dhr.state.al.us/large_docs/Guidelines%20for%20Assessment%20Homes.pdf

Alaska

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.legis.state.ak.us/folhome.htm

Citations:

Adoption: Title 25, Chapter 23
Child Protection: Title 47, Chapter 17
Child Welfare: Title 47, Chapter 10

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/aac

Note:

See Title 7, Part 1, Chapter 5, Article 2; Part 4, Chapters 50, 51, 53, 56

Other Resources:

Department of Health and Social Services, Office of Children's Services

• Publications index page—http://www.hss.state.ak.us/ocs/Publications/default.htm

American Samoa

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.asbar.org/Newcode/asca.htm

Citations:

• Adoption: Title 45, Chapter 04

Child Protection: Title 45, Chapters 01, 20
Child Welfare: Title 45, Chapters 02, 03

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.asbar.org/

Note:

Selected sections available online

Arizona

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.azleg.state.az.us/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp

Citations:

• Adoption: Title 8, Chapter 1

Child Protection: Title 8, Chapter 10, Articles 1-2

• Child Welfare: Title 8, Chapter 5; Chapter 10, Articles 3-7; Chapter 11

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.azsos.gov/public_services/Table_of_Contents.htm

Note:

See Title 6, Chapter 5, Articles 55, 56, 58 through 60, 65 through 67, 69, 70, 74, 75, 80

Other Resources:

Department of Economic Security, Division of Children, Youth and Families

- Guide to CPS http://www.de.state.az.us/dcyf/cps/guide.asp
- Foster Care and Adoption Publications Page http://www.de.state.az.us/dcyf/adoption/publications.asp

Arkansas

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/NXT/gateway.dll?f=templates&fn=default.htm&vid=blr:code

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 9, Subtitle 2, Chapter 9
- Child Protection: Title 9, Subtitle 3, Chapter 30
- Child Welfare: Title 9, Subtitle 2, Chapter 16; Subtitle 3, Chapters 27, 28, 29, 32, and 34

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.sosweb.state.ar.us/admin_rules.html

Note:

See 'Human Services, Department of'

Other Resources:

Department of Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services

- Reference Center—http://www.state.ar.us/dhs/chilnfam/referencecenter.htm
- Chafee Foster Care Independence Program Handbook http://www.arkansas.gov/dhhs/chilnfam/PUB-404%20-%20%201-31-03.pdf

California

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/calaw.html

Citations:

- Adoption: Family Code, Division 13; Health and Safety Code, Division 102, Chapter 5; Welfare and Institutions Code, Division 9, Part 4, Chapters 2, 2.1, 2.2, and 2.6
- Child Protection: Penal Code, Part 1, Title 9, Chapters 1 & 2; Welfare and Institutions Code, Division 9, Part 6, Chapters 11, 12, and 12.5
- Child Welfare: Family Code, Division 12, Part 3, Chapter 5; Part 5; Part 6. Welfare and Institutions Code, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 2, Articles 6 through 13.5; Division 2; Chapter 4; Division 9, Part 4, Chapters 1, 2.5, 3, and 5; Part 4.4; Division 9, Part 6, Chapters 4. 4.5, and 6.2

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/ord/CDSSManual_240.htm

Note:

See Division 11: Foster Care, and Division 31: Child Welfare Services Manual

Department of Social Services

Online California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Divisions 2, 6, and 12 (CDSS/Community Care Facilities Licensing Manuals)

http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/ord/CCRTitle22_715.htm

Colorado

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://198.187.128.12/colorado/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=fs-main.htm&2.0%20

Citations:

• Adoption: Title 19, Article 5

• Child Protection: Title 19, Article 3, Part 3

• Child Welfare: Title 19, Article 3

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/cyf/Child_Welfare/rules_regs/rules_regs_home.htm

Other Resources:

Department of Human Services, Division of Child Welfare Services

• Child Welfare Practice Handbook http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/cyf/Child_Welfare/rules_regs/handbook/CW_Handbook_Home.htm

Connecticut

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.cga.ct.gov/2005/pub/titles.htm

Citations:

• Adoption: Title 45a, Chapter 803; Title 46b, Chapter 815y

• Child Protection: Title 46b, Chapter 815t

• Child Welfare: Title 17a, Chapters 319 & 319a

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.state.ct.us/dcf/pol_regs.htm

Delaware

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.delcode.state.de.us/

Citations:

• Adoption: Title 13, Chapters 9 and 11; Title 31, Chapter 54

• Child Protection: Title 16, Chapter 9

• Child Welfare: Title 31, Chapters 3 and 38

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.state.de.us/kids/information/policy.shtml

Other Resources:

Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families

• Requirements for Child Placing Agencies—http://www.state.de.us/kids/pdfs/occl_regs_cpa.pdf

District of Columbia

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://dccode.westgroup.com/home/dccodes/

Citations:

- Adoption: Division I, Title 4, Chapter 3; Division II, Title 16, Chapter 3
- Child Protection: Division I, Title 4, Chapter 13; Division II, Title 16, Chapter 23, Subchapter I
- Child Welfare: Division I, Title 4, Chapter 14; Division II, Title 16, Chapter 23, Subchapters III, IV, and V; Chapter 48

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://os.dc.gov/os/cwp/view,a,1206,q,522357,osNav,%7C31374%7C.asp

Note:

Title 29: Public Welfare is not available online

Other Resources:

Child and Family Services Agency

 Licensing Regulations http://www.cfsa.dc.gov/cfsa/cwp/view,a,3,q,521300.asp

Florida

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.flsenate.gov/statutes/index.cfm?

Citations:

• Adoption: Title VI, Chapter 63

Child Protection: Title V, Chapter 39, parts I through III
Child Welfare: Title V, Chapters 39, parts IV through XIII

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://fac.dos.state.fl.us/

Note:

See Chapter 65, Sections B-5, B-6, C-7 through C-19, and C-24

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/publications/policies.shtml

Georgia

Statutes:

Websites for Statutes: http://www.legis.state.ga.us/cgi-bin/gl_codes_detail.pl?code=1-1-1 http://www.legis.state.ga.us/legis/GaCode/index.htm

Citations:

• Adoption: Title 19, Chapter 8

Child Protection: Title 19, Chapter 5, Chapters 14 and 15; § 19-7-5

Child Welfare: Title 15, Chapter 11, §§ 15-11-58; 15-11-93 through 15-11-106; Title 49, Chapter 5

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://rules.sos.state.ga.us/

Note

See Department of Human Resources, Chapters 290-2 and 290-9-2

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.odis.dhr.state.ga.us/contents.htm

Note:

See Family and Children

Department of Human Resources, Division of Family and Children Services

- Foster Parent Manual http://www.dhr.georgia.gov/DHR/DHR_CommonFiles/16854687FosterParentManual1.pdf
- Relative Care Policy index http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHR-DFCS/menuitem.8237042e9dbda3aa50c8798dd03036a0/ ?vgnextoid=35b7dcf444674010VgnVCM100000bf01010aRCRD&vgnext channel=69e92b48d9a4ff00VgnVCM100000bf01010aRCRD
- Statewide Model Child Abuse Protocol http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/DHR-DFCS/DHR-DFCS_CommonFiles/19906193Abuse_Protocol_Final.pdf
- Comprehensive Child and Family Assessment Standards http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov/portal/site/DHR-DFCS/menuitem.83054cda1a084d2f7da1df8dda1010a0/?vgnextoid=90f92b48d9a4ff00VgnVCM100000bf01010aRCRD

Guam

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.guamattorneygeneral.com/guam_code_toc.php

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 19, Chapter 4, article 2Child Protection: Title 19, Chapter 13
- Child Welfare: Title 19, Chapter 4, article 3; Title 19, Chapter 13, article 3

Regulation/Policy:

Note:

Not available online

Hawaii

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/site1/docs/docs.asp?press1=docs

Citations:

- Adoption: Volume 7, Chapters 350C and 350E; Volume 12, Chapter 578
- Child Protection: Volume 7, Chapter 350; Volume 12, Chapter 587, parts I through III
- Child Welfare: Volume 12, Chapter 587, parts III through VIII

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.hawaii.gov/ltgov/office/adminrules/

Note:

See Title 17, Sections 17-804 through 17-893; 17-920.1; 17-943.1 through 17-945

Other Resources:

Department of Human Services

A Guide to Child Welfare Services
 http://www.state.hi.us/dhs/A%20Guide%20To%20Child%20Welfare%20Services/A%20Guide%20To%20Child%20Welfare%20Services.htm

Idaho

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www3.state.id.us/idstat/TOC/idstTOC.html

Citations:

• Adoption: Title 16, Chapter 15

• Child Protection: Title 16, Chapter 16

• Child Welfare: Title 16, Chapters 16, 20, 21

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/agyindex.htm

Note:

See 'Health and Welfare, Department of,' Sections 16.05.06, 16.06.01, and 16.06.02

Other Resources:

Department of Health and Welfare

 Child Protection Manual http://www.isc.idaho.gov/childapx.htm

Illinois

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs.asp

Citations:

• Adoption: Chapter 750 ILCS 50; 55

• Child Protection: Chapter 325 ILCS 2; 5; 15

Child Welfare: Chapter 20 ILCS 505; 520; Chapter 705 ILCS 405/ Article II

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.state.il.us/dcfs/policy/index.shtml

Department of Child and Family Services

- Manual for Mandated Reporters http://www.state.il.us/DCFS/docs/MANDATED2002.pdf
- Foster Family Handbook http://www.state.il.us/dcfs/library/com_communications_sumlicen_FPbook.shtml
- Substitute Care and Your Child http://www.state.il.us/DCFS/docs/subchild.pdf
- Crossroads: A Handbook for Youth in Transition to Adulthood http://www.state.il.us/DCFS/docs/Crossroads.pdf

Indiana

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/

Citations:

• Adoption: Title 31, Article 19

• Child Protection: Title 31, Article 33

• Child Welfare: Title 31, Articles 34 and 35

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/

Note:

See Title 465, Article 2

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.in.gov/dcs/policies/cwmanual.html

Other Resources:

Department of Child Services

- Independent Living Policy Handbook http://www.in.gov/dcs/docs/protection/ilhandbook--updated%2010-2004.doc
- Protocol for Investigating Institutional Child Abuse/Neglect Allegations http://www.in.gov/dcs/protection/institutionprotocol.html

lowa

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.legis.state.ia.us/lowaLaw.html

Citations:

- Adoption: Title XV, Subtitle 1, Chapter 600
- Child Protection: Title VI, Subtitle 5, Chapter 232, Division III; Subtitle 6, Chapter 235A
- Child Welfare: Title VI, Subtitle 5, Chapters 232, 235, and 237; Title XV, Subtitle 1, Chapter 600A

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/policyanalysis/rulespages/RulesChap.htm

Note:

See Chapters 107, 108, 112-114, 117, 142, 155-158, 160, 175, 200-204

Websites for Agency Policies: http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/dhs2005/dhs_homepage/reports_pubs/program_policy/index.html http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/policyanalysis/PolicyManualPages/PolManual.htm

Other Resources:

Department of Human Services

 Child Welfare Law (Online manual for social workers) http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/icwl/

Kansas

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.kslegislature.org/legsrv-statutes/index.do

Citations:

- Adoption: Chapter 59, Article 21; Chapter 38, Article 3, §§ 38-319 through 38-340
- Child Protection: Chapter 38, Article 15, §§ 38–1502; 38–1521 through 38–1530
- Child Welfare: Chapter 38, Article 15

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.srskansas.org/CFS/cfp_manuals/ppm_manual/ppminternet.htm

Kentucky

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://lrc.ky.gov/Statrev/frontpg.htm

Citations:

- Adoption: Title XVII, Chapter 199, §§ 199.470 through 199.5955
- Child Protection: Title LI, Chapter 620, §§ 620.020 through 620.180
- Child Welfare: Title LI, Chapters 620 and 625

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://lrc.ky.gov/KAR/titles.htm

Note:

See Titles 920 through 922

Other Resources:

Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Department for Community Based Services

- Division of Protection and Permanency Standards of Practice (SOPs) http://manuals.chfs.ky.gov/dcbs_manuals/DPP/index_dpp.asp
- Resource Parent Handbook http://chfs.ky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/E5F11E11-7244-41F6-B462-F5C2912E7857/0/ResourceParentHandbook.pdf

Louisiana

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.legis.state.la.us

Citations:

- Adoption: Children's Code, Articles 1001 through 1283.17; Revised Statutes, Title 40, §§ 72–79
- Child Protection: Children's Code, Articles 501 through 526; 601 through 670
- Child Welfare: Children's Code, Articles 671 through 717

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.state.la.us/osr/lac/books.htm

Note:

See Title 67, Part III, Subpart 13, and Part V, Subparts 3, 5, 6

Website for Agency Policies: http://stellent.dss.state.la.us/LADSS/index.jsp

Note:

See OCS (Office of Community Services)

Maine

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 18-A, Article IX; Title 22, Chapters 1152-A and 1671
- Child Protection: Title 22, Chapter 1071, Subchapters 1 through 4, and 11-A
- Child Welfare: Title 22, Chapter 1071, Subchapters 1, 5 through 7, and 15; Title 22, Chapter 1153

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/rules.html

Note:

See Chapter 10 148

Websites for Agency Policies: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/bcfs/policy/policy.htm http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/bcfs/kinship.htm

Other Resources:

Department of Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services

- Child Protection, Handbook for Parents http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/bcfs/handbook.htm
- State Independent Living Program manual http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/bcfs/il.htm

Maryland

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://198.187.128.12/maryland/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=fs-main.htm&2.0

Citations:

- Adoption: Family Law, Title 5, Subtitles 3 through 4C
- Child Protection: Family Law, Title 5, Subtitles 7, 7A, and 9
- Child Welfare: Family Law, Title 5, Subtitles 5, 6, and 12

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.dsd.state.md.us/comar/title_search/Title_List.htm

Note:

See Title 07, Subtitle 02 and Subtitle 05

Massachusetts

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.mass.gov/legis/laws/mgl/index.htm

Citations:

- Adoption: Part II, Chapter 210
- Child Protection: Part I, Chapter 119, §§ 51A through 51F
- Child Welfare: Part I, Chapter 119, §§ 21 through 23; 26; 29C through 33; and 36 through 39G

Other Resources:

Department of Social Services

- A Guide for Foster and Pre-Adoptive Parents http://www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/dss/c_fp_ap_guide.pdf
- Foster Parents and Adoption Kit http://www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/dss/c_fc_adoption_kit.pdf

Department of Early Education and Care

- Child Placement and Adoption Regulations (102 CMR 5.00) http://www.eec.state.ma.us/docs/placement_regs.pdf
- Criminal Offender Record Checks (102 CMR 14.00) http://www.eec.state.ma.us/docs/cori_regs.pdf

Michigan

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.legislature.mi.gov/

Citations:

- Adoption: §§ 710.21 through 710.70
- Child Protection: §§ 722.621 through 722.638
- Child Welfare: §§ 712.1 through 712.20; 712A.19 through 712A.21; 722.131 through 722.140; 722.161 through 722.163; 722.951 through 722.960

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.michigan.gov/cis/0,1607,7-154-10576_35738_5698-118524--,00.html

Note:

See Department of Human Services

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.michigan.gov/fia/0,1607,7-124-5458_7700---,00.html

Department of Human Services

- Mandated Reporter's Resource Guide http://www.michigan.gov/documents/DHS-MandatedReportersGuide_119708_7.pdf
- Forensic Interviewing Protocol http://www.michigan.gov/documents/FIA-Pub779_13054_7.pdf
- A Model Child Abuse Protocol http://www.michigan.gov/documents/FIA-Pub794_13083_7.pdf

Minnesota

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/stats/

Citations:

- Adoption: Chapter 259, §§ 259.20 through 259.89
- Child Protection: Chapter 260C, §§ 260C.001 through 260C.201
- Child Welfare: Chapter 260C, §§ 260C.205 through 260C.317

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.revisor.leq.state.mn.us/arule/index.alpha.html

Note:

See Human Services Department, Chapters 9543, 9545, 9550, and 9560

Other Resources:

Department of Human Services

- Publications Index Page http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/publications/documents/pub/DHS_id_003699.hcsp
- Social Services Manual http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/groups/county_access/documents/pub/dhs_id_016961.hcsp

Mississippi

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.mscode.com/free/statutes/toc.htm

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 93, Chapter 17
- Child Protection: Title 43, Chapter 21
- Child Welfare: Title 43, Chapters 15, 18, and 51; Title 93, Chapter 15

Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Children Services

 No manuals available online; See the division homepage for more information: http://www.mdhs.state.ms.us/fcs.html

Missouri

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.moga.state.mo.us/STATUTES/STATUTES.HTM

Citations:

- Adoption: Title XXX, Chapter 453
- Child Protection: Title XII, Chapter 210, §§ 210.109 through 210.167
- Child Welfare: Title XII, Chapter 211, §§ 211.171; 211.177 through 211.183; 211.442 through 211.477

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/csr.asp

Note:

See Title 13, Divisions 35 and 40

Other Resources:

Department of Social Services, Children's Division

- Child Welfare Manual http://dss.missouri.gov/cd/info/cwmanual
- Memorandums http://www.dss.mo.gov/cd/info/memos/
- Guidelines for Child Abuse and Neglect Reports http://www.dss.mo.gov/cd/pdf/guidelines_can_reports.pdf
- What's It All About? A Guidebook for Youth in Out-Of-Home-Care http://www.dss.mo.gov/cd/chafee/wiaa.pdf

Montana

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://data.opi.state.mt.us/bills/mca_toc/index.htm

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 42
- Child Protection: Title 41, Chapter 3, Parts 1 through 4
- Child Welfare: Title 41, Chapter 3, Parts 5 and 6; Title 41, Chapters 4 and 7; Title 52, Chapter 2

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://arm.sos.state.mt.us/

Note

See Title 37, Chapters 47-52 and 97

Other Resources:

Department of Public Health and Human Services, Child and Family Services Division

- What Happens Next? A Guide to the Child and Family Services Division http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/aboutus/divisions/childfamilyservices/publications/whathappensnext.shtml
- School Guidelines for Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/aboutus/divisions/childfamilyservices/publications/mtschoolguidelines.pdf

Nebraska

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://statutes.unicam.state.ne.us/

Citations:

- Adoption: Chapter 43, §§ 43-101 through 43-165
- Child Protection: Chapter 28, §§ 28-707; 28-710 through 28-739
- Child Welfare: Chapter 43, §§ 43-1301 through 43-1321

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/chs/chsrules.htm

Nevada

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/Index.cfm

Citations:

• Adoption: Chapter 127

Child Protection: Chapter 432BChild Welfare: Chapters 128 and 424

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.leg.state.nv.us/nac/chapters.html

Note:

See Chapters 127, 423, 424, 432, 432A and 432B

New Hampshire

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/indexes/default.asp

Citations:

- Adoption: Title XII, Chapters 170-B and 170-F
- Child Protection: Title XII, Chapter 169-C
- Child Welfare: Title XII, Chapters 169-C (§§ 169-C:19 through 169-C:28), 170-A, 170-C, and 170-G

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/DCYF/LAWS-RULES-POLICIES/default.htm

Note:

Not all policy areas currently available

Other Resources:

Department of Health and Human Services

 Family Services Children's Eligibility Manual http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/FSCEM_htm/NEWFSCEM.HTM

New Jersey

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.njleg.state.nj.us

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 9, §§ 9:3-37 through 9:3-56; Title 30, §§ 30:4C-41 through 30:4C-49
- Child Protection: Title 9, §§ 9:6-1 through 9:6-8.86
- Child Welfare: Title 9, §§ 9:2-18 through 9:2-21; 9:6-8.8; 9:6-8.45 through 9:6-8.70; Title 30, §§ 30:4C-11 through 30:4C-28, and 30:4C-50 through 30:4C-61.2

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://law-library.rutgers.edu/ilg/njlaw.html#NJREGS

Note:

There is no centralized location for the New Jersey Administrative Code on a publicly accessible website. A limited number of sections of the Administrative Code are available on this website.

Department of Human Services

- N.J.A.C. 10:121A—Manual of Requirements for Adoption Agencies http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ool/regulations/adoption%20agency%20manual.pdf
- N.J.A.C. 10:122C—Licensure of Foster Homes http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ool/regulations/122C%20amended%204-03.pdf
- Child Abuse and Neglect: A Professional's Guide to Identification, Reporting, Investigation and Treatment http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/NJTaskForce/qtfmodel.html
- Guides for Foster Parents http://www.njfostercare.org/fpguidesframeset.html

New Mexico

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.conwaygreene.com/NewMexico.htm

Citations:

- Adoption: Chapter 32A, Article 5
- Child Protection: Chapter 32A, Article 4
- Child Welfare: Chapter 32A, Articles 3A, 3B, 11, and 17

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.nmcpr.state.nm.us/nmac/_titles.htm

Note:

See Title 8, Chapters 8, 10, 26, 27

New York

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS

Citations:

- Adoption: Domestic Relations Law, Article 7; Social Services Law, Article 6, Title 9; Public Health Law, Article 41, Title 3, §§ 4138 through 4138-d
- Child Protection: Social Services Law, Article 6, Titles 1, 4, and 6
- Child Welfare: Social Services Law, Article 6, Titles 1-A and 3

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/policies/external/OCFS_2005/

Office of Children and Family Services

- Foster Parent Manual http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/publications/Pub5011%20NYS%20Foster%20Parent%20Manual.pdf
- Handbook for Youth in Foster Care http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/publications/Pub5028.pdf
- Summary Guide for Mandated Reporters in New York State http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/publications/Pub1159text.asp
- A Guide to Compliance with the Federal Indian Child Welfare Act in New York State http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/publications/Pub4757GuideCompliance.pdf

North Carolina

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/Statutes/StatutesTOC.pl

Citations:

- Adoption: Chapter 7B, Articles 37 and 39; Chapter 48
- Child Protection: Chapter 7B, Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, and 29
- Child Welfare: Chapter 7B, Articles 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 38

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac.asp

Note:

See Title 10A, Chapter 70

Other Resources:

Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services

 Online Publications Index page http://info.dhhs.state.nc.us/olm/manuals/dss/

Note:

See Family Support and Child Welfare

North Dakota

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.legis.nd.gov/information/statutes/

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 14, Chapters 14-15 and 14-15.1; Title 50, Chapter 50-28
- Child Protection: Title 50, Chapter 50-25.1
- Child Welfare: Title 27, Chapter 27-20, §§ 27-20-02; 27-20-20.1; 27-20-30; 27-20-32.1; 27-20-32.2; 27-20-44 through 27-20-48.1

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.legis.nd.gov/information/rules/admincode.html

Note:

See Title 75, Article 75-03

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.state.nd.us/humanservices/policymanuals/home/

Northern Mariana Islands

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.cnmilaw.org/welcome.php

Citations:

Adoption: Title 8, §§ 1101-1105; 1401-1420Child Protection: Title 6, §§ 5311-5325

• Child Welfare: Title 6, §§ 5323-5325; Title 8, § 1418

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.cnmilaw.org/

Note:

Session laws only, from 1994 to the present, are available online.

Commonwealth Administrative Code is currently being compiled; see the CNMI Law Revision Commission website for more information.

Ohio

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://onlinedocs.andersonpublishing.com/revisedcode/

Citations:

- Adoption: Title XXXI, Chapter 3107, §§ 3107.01 through 3107.99
- Child Protection: Title XXI, Chapter 2151, §§ 2151.03 through 2151.05; 2151.141; 2151.28; 2151.33; 2151.331; 2151.35; 2151.353; 2151.3515 through 2151.350; 2151.421
- Child Welfare: Title XXI, Chapter 2151, §§ 2151.3515 through 2151.39; 2151.412 through 2151.42; 2151.424; 2151.55 through 2151.553

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://onlinedocs.andersonpublishing.com/oh/lpExt. dll?f=templates&fn=main-h.htm&cp=OAC

Note:

See Chapter 5101:2

Other Resources:

Department of Job and Family Services

• Family, Children and Adult Services Manual http://emanuals.odjfs.state.oh.us/emanuals/family/FCA/@Generic_BookView;cs=default;ts=default

Oklahoma

Statutes:

Websites for Statutes: http://www.lsb.state.ok.us

http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/index.asp?ftdb=STOKST&level=1

Citations:

• Adoption: Title 10, Chapter 75

• Child Protection: Title 10, Chapter 71

• Child Welfare: Title 10, Chapters 25, 70, and 72

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.sos.state.ok.us/oar/oar_welcome.htm

Note:

See Title 340: Department of Human Services

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.policy.okdhs.org/home/

Oregon

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/

Citations:

- Adoption: Chapter 109, §§ 109.304 through 109.507
- Child Protection: Chapter 419B, §§ 419B.005 through 419B.050
- Child Welfare: Chapter 419B, §§ 419B.192 through 419B.208; 419B.340 through 419B.349; 419B.470 through 419B.530

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/banners/rules.htm

Note:

See Chapter 413—Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Programs; Chapter 423—Oregon Commission on Children and Families

Websites for Agency Policies: http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policyhttp://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/

Other Resources:

Department of Human Services

- Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect: An Explanation of Oregon's Mandatory Reporting Law http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/abuse/publications/children/mandrptlaw04.pdf
- Child Welfare Practices for Cases with Domestic Violence http://dhsforms.hr.state.or.us/Forms/Served/CE9200.pdf
- Safety Standards for Foster Care, Relative Care, & Adoptive Families http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/children/publications/fc/safety_standards.pdf
- Oregon Adoption Assistance Handbook http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/children/publications/adopthdbk.pdf

Pennsylvania

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://members.aol.com/StatutesPA/Index.html

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 23, Chapters 21 through 29
- Child Protection: Title 23, Chapters 61 and 63
- Child Welfare: Title 23, Chapter 25, §§ 2511 through 2513; Title 23, Chapter 56; Title 42, Chapter 63, §§ 6301 through 6303; 6351

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.pacode.com/secure/browse.asp

Note:

See Title 55, Part V: Children, Youth, and Families Manual

Other Resources:

Department of Public Welfare

- Chafee Foster Care Independence Program http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/Child/AdoptionFosterCare/003670369.htm
- Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/Child/ChildWelfare/003670978.htm
- Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/Child/AdoptionFosterCare/003670981.htm

Puerto Rico

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.tribunalpr.org/leyes/index.html

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 31, Chapter 65, §§ 531 through 539; Title 32, Chapter 223, §§ 2699 through 2699s
- Child Protection: Title 8, Chapter 23A, §§ 441 through 442j
- Child Welfare: Title 8, Chapter 23A, §§ 442k through 443i; Title 31, Chapter 81, §§ 631; 634 through 634c

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.tribunalpr.org/leyes/index.html

Note

Information on statutes and regulations is available in Spanish.

Rhode Island

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/statutes/statutes.html

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 15, Chapters 7, 7.1, and 7.2; Title 42, Chapter 72, § 42-72-5.1
- Child Protection: Title 40, Chapter 11; Title 42, Chapter 72, §§ 42-72-7 through 42-72-11
- Child Welfare: Title 15, Chapter 7, §§ 15-7-7 and 15-7-7.2; Title 40, Chapter 11, §§ 40-11-12 through 40-11-12.2; Title 40, Chapter 15

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.rules.state.ri.us/rules/

Note:

Select Agency as 'Children, Youth, and Families, Dept. of'

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.ridhscode.org/

Note:

See Social Services, Section 0520

Other Resources:

Department of Human Services

- Foster Parent Handbook http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/fster_parent_handbk.pdf
- Foster Care Regulations (1998) http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/fc_reg.pdf
- Child Placing Regulations (1987) http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/docs/chld_place_agencies.pdf

South Carolina

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.scstatehouse.net/code/statmast.htm

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 20, Chapter 7, §§ 20-7-1646 through 20-7-1897; 20-7-1900 through 20-7-1970
- Child Protection: Title 20, Chapter 7, §§ 20-7-490; 20-7-510 through 20-7-570; 20-7-635 through 20-7-695
- Child Welfare: Title 20, Chapter 7, §§ 20-7-762 through 20-7-775; 20-7-1560 through 20-7-1582; 20-7-1630 through 20-7-1645; 20-7-1980 through 20-7-2070

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.scstatehouse.net/coderegs/statmast.htm

Note:

See Chapter 24: Office of the Governor—Division for Review of the Foster Care of Children; and Chapter 114: Department of Social Services

South Dakota

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/index.aspx

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 25, Chapters 5A, 6, and 6A; Title 26, Chapter 4, §§ 26-4-9.1 and 26-4-15
- Child Protection: Title 26, Chapter 8A, §§ 26-8A-1 through 26-8A-20
- Child Welfare: Title 26, Chapter 8A, §§ 26-8A-21 through 26-8A-33; Title 26, Chapter 13

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://legis.state.sd.us/rules/RulesList.aspx

Note

See Rule 67:14—Social Services: Office of Children, Youth and Family Services

Tennessee

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://198.187.128.12/tennessee/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=fs-main.htm&2.0

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 36, Chapter 1
- Child Protection: Title 37, Chapter 1, Parts 1, 4, and 6
- Child Welfare: Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 1; Chapter 2, Parts 2 through 4; Chapter 3, Part 6; Chapter 4, Part 2

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.state.tn.us/sos/rules/rules2.htm

Note:

See Chapters 0250 and 1240

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.state.tn.us/youth/policies/index.htm

Other Resources:

Department of Children's Services

- The Tennessee Handbook for Parents and Guardians in Child Abuse & Neglect Cases http://www.tsc.state.tn.us/geninfo/Programs/Parenting/Parents%20handbook3.pdf
- Foster Parent Handbook 2002 http://www.state.tn.us/youth/foster/foster_handbook/handbook.pdf
- Adoption Services Procedures Manual http://www.state.tn.us/youth/adoption/Adoption_Services_Procedure_Manual.pdf

Texas

Statutes:

Websites for Statutes: http://www.capitol.state.tx.us http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes/statutes.html

Citations:

- Adoption: Family Code, Title 5, Chapters 162 and 264 (§§ 264.110 and 264.111)
- Child Protection: Family Code, Title 5, Chapter 261
- Child Welfare: Family Code, Title 5, Chapters 161, 262, 263, and 264

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://info.sos.state.tx.us/pls/pub/readtac\$ext.ViewTAC

Note:

See Title 40, Part 19

Other Resources:

Department of Family and Protective Services

- Program Handbooks Index page http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Handbooks/
- Texas Child Fatality Review Team Operations Manual http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/About_Child_Protective_Services/cfrtOperationsManual.asp
- Texas Foster Care Handbook for Youth http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Documents/Child_Protection/pdf/foster-care-handbook.pdf

Utah

Statutes:

Websites for Statutes: http://www.le.state.ut.us/http://www.le.state.ut.us/%7Ecode/code.htm

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 62A, Chapter 4a, §§ 62A-4a-901 through 62A-4a-907; Title 78, Chapter 30
- Child Protection: Title 62A, Chapter 4a, §§ 62A-4a-401 through 62A-4a-414
- Child Welfare: Title 62A, Chapter 4a, §§ 62A-4a-201 through 62A-4a-209; 62A-4a-701 through 62A-4a-709; 62A-4a-801 and 62A-4a-802; Title 78, Chapter 3a, §§ 78-3a-301 through 78-3a-414

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.rules.utah.gov/publicat/code.htm

Note:

See Human Services, Title R501-7, R501-12, R501-18, and Title R512

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.hsdcfs.utah.gov/guidelines_rules.htm

Vermont

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/statutes2.htm

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 15A
- Child Protection: Title 33, Chapter 49
- Child Welfare: Title 15A, Article 3, §§ 3-504 through 3-506; Title 33, Chapter 55, §§ 5528, 5531, and 5540;
 Title 33, Chapter 59

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.dcf.state.vt.us/fsd/policy/index.html

Other Resources:

Department for Children and Families

- A Guide for Parents with Children in DCF Custody http://www.dcf.state.vt.us/fsd/pubs&reports/GuideForParentsWithChildrenInCustody.pdf
- Vermont Adoption Handbook http://www.projectfamilyvt.org/pdfs/AdoptHandbook2003_2004.pdf

Virgin Islands

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://198.187.128.12/virginislands/lpext.dll?f=templates&fn=fs-main.htm&2.0

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 16, Chapter 5
- Child Protection: Title 5, Subtitle 2, Chapter 201, Subchapters 2 (§ 2502) and 4 (§§ 2532 to 2541)
- Child Welfare: Title 5, Subtitle 2, Chapter 201, Subchapters 1 (§ 2501) and 4 (§§ 2542 to 2555)

Regulation/Policy:

Note:

Not available online

Virginia

Statutes:

Websites for Statutes: http://legis.state.va.us http://legis.state.va.us/Laws/CodeofVa.htm

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 63.2, Chapters 12 through 14
- Child Protection: Title 63.2, Chapter 15
- Child Welfare: Title 63.2, Chapter 9 through 11; Title 16.1, Chapter 11, §§ 16.1-281 through 16.1-283

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://leg1.state.va.us/000/reg/TOC.HTM

Note:

See Title 22, Agency 40

Other Resources:

Department of Social Services

- CPS Policy Manual http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cps/policy.html
- Foster Care Policy Manual http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/fc/manual.cgi
- Title IV-e Policy Manual http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/fc/ive/policy.cgi
- Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children Regulations http://www.dss.virginia.gov/pub/pdf/icpcregulation.pdf

Washington

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.leg.wa.gov/rcw/index.cfm#RCW_by_Title

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 26, Chapter 26.33
- Child Protection: Title 26, Chapter 26.44
- Child Welfare: Title 13, Chapter 13.34; Title 26, Chapter 26.34

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/

Note:

See Titles 112, 275, 388, 440

Website for Agency Policies: http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/CA/pubs/manuals_pp.asp

Department of Social and Health Services, Children's Administration

 Publications/Program Information Index page http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/ca/pubs/programs.asp

West Virginia

Statutes:

Website for Statutes: http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODE/masterfrm3Banner.cfm

Citations:

- Adoption: Chapter 48, §§ 48-22-101 through 48-22-903; 48-23-101 through 48-23-801; Chapter 49, §§ 49-2C-1 through 49-2C-4
- Child Protection: Chapter 49, §§ 49-6A-1 through 49-6A-10
- Child Welfare: Chapter 49, §§ 49-2-1 through 49-2-17; 49-2A-1 through 49-2A-2; 49-2D-1 through 49-2D-9; 49-6-1 through 39-6-12; and 49-6D-1 through 49-6D-3

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.wvsos.com/csr/

Note:

See Social and Human Services, 'Children & Youth Commission' and 'Human Services' sections

Website for Agency Policies: http://www.wvdhhr.org/bcf/policy/

Wisconsin

Statutes:

Websites for Statutes: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/../rsb/stats.html http://folio.legis.state.wi.us/cgi-bin/om_isapi.dll?clientID=43827797&infobase=stats.nfo&jump=ch.%2048

Citations:

- Adoption: Chapter 48, §§ 48.02; Subchapter XIX
- Child Protection: Chapter 48, §§ 48.02 and 48.981
- Child Welfare: Chapter 48, §§ 48.01, 48.02, and 48.98; Subchapters VI, VII, VIII, X, XI, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XVI, and XVII

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/codtoc.html

Note:

See Health and Family Services

Department of Health and Family Services

- Index of codes related to Adoption and Foster Care http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/children/adoption/statcode.HTM
- Index of codes related to Child Protective Services http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/Children/CPS/statsadmin/statsINDX.htm

Wyoming

Statutes:

Websites for Statutes: http://legisweb.state.wy.us/titles/statutes.htm http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/statute Note: See Family Support and Child Welfare s.htm

Citations:

- Adoption: Title 1, Chapter 22
- Child Protection: Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 2
- Child Welfare: Title 14, Chapter 2, Article 3; Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 4; Title 14, Chapter 5

Regulation/Policy:

Website for Administrative Code: http://soswy.state.wy.us/Rule_Search_Main.asp

Note

Select Department of Family Services as the agency.

Relevant Programs to select: Adoption; Central Reg. for Child/Disabled Adult Protection; Child Protection; Child. & Fam. Serv.—Childrn in Need of Suprv. & D; Confidential Adoption Intermediary Committee; CONTHEAR; Court-Ordered Placements of Child.; Providers of Substitute Care Serv, Cert. of

Other Resources:

Department of Family Services

- Foster Parent Handbook http://dfsweb.state.wy.us/ProtectiveSvc/Programs/FosterCare/FosterParentHandbook.doc
- Concurrent Planning Handbook http://dfsweb.state.wy.us/pdf/05fostercareConcurrent%20Planning%20Handbook.pdf